DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residence, post office addresses and citizenship are as stated below next to our names, Thomas Ducellier, Filippus Stefanus Roux and Jacques Bismuth.

We believe we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

SYSTEM AND METHOD OF OPTICAL SWITCHING

the specification of which is attached hereto.

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of the Federal Regulations, S1.56(a).

We hereby claim the benefit of Title 35, U.S.C. 119(e), of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is now disclosed in the prior United States **provisional** patent application

(Number)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

patented/pending/abandoned

60/304,407

July 12, 2001

Pending

(10-498 US PROV)

We hereby appoint the following agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the U.S.C. and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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